

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/623,317

Examiner

Jefferey F. Harold

Applicant(s)

LAUNDERS ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed January 8, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 22 June 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. <u>12</u> | 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The references listed in the Information Disclosure Statement submitted on January 8, 2004, have been considered by the examiner (see attached PTO-1449).

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see pages 9 and 10, filed January 8, 2004, with respect to claims 1-3, 6 and 12-15 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1-3, 6 and 12-15 has been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. **Claims 1-17** are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding **claim 1**, the prior art of record discloses a process of operating a telecommunications network including: in response to instructions from a second party remote from a subscriber terminal, pre-programming the network, communicating in the absence of an in-progress call and subsequently initiating a call from the subscriber terminal, however the prior art of record failed to disclose or fairly suggest a process of programming the network to respond to one or more short dialing codes from the subscriber terminal, communicating to the subscriber terminal data identifying the allocation of short dialing codes and initiating a call from the subscriber terminal by dialing one of the short codes.

Regarding **claim 7**, the prior art of record discloses a process of operating a telecommunications network including: in response to instructions from a second party

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remote from a subscriber, pre-programming the network communicating in the absence of an in-progress call and subsequently initiating a call from the subscriber terminal, however the prior art of record failed to disclose or fairly suggest a process of programming the network to respond to one or more short dialing codes from the subscriber terminal, communicating to the subscriber terminal data identifying the allocation of short dialing codes and initiating a call from the subscriber terminal by dialing one of the short codes, the step of pre-programming the network includes programming a number translation platform remote from the subscriber terminal with a plurality of different short dialing code allocations for a plurality of different subscriber terminals and transmitting from the management platform to the number translation platform instructions for determining the allocation of short dialing codes, and transmitting from the management platform to a local exchange the data identifying the allocation of short dialing codes for a respective subscriber terminal.

Regarding **claim 9**, the prior art of record discloses a process of operating a telecommunications network including: in response to instructions from a second party remote from a subscriber, pre-programming the network communicating in the absence of an in-progress call and subsequently initiating a call from the subscriber terminal, however the prior art of record failed to disclose or fairly suggest a process of programming the network to respond to one or more short dialing codes from the subscriber terminal, communicating to the subscriber terminal data identifying the allocation of short dialing codes and initiating a call from the subscriber terminal by dialing one of the short codes and pre-programming different short dialing code

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allocations for different respective groups of subscribers in different subscriber categories.

Regarding **claim 14**, the prior art of record discloses a telecommunications network including: means responsive to instructions from a second party remote from a subscriber terminal for pre-programming the network; means for communicating, in the absence of an in-progress call; means for connecting a subscriber to a destination number, however the prior art of record failed to disclose or fairly suggest means for pre-programming the network to respond to one or more short dialing codes from the subscriber terminal, means for communicating to the subscriber terminal data identifying the allocation of short dialing codes pre-programmed and means responsive to a short code subsequently selected by the subscriber for connecting the subscriber to a destination number determined by the allocation of short dialing codes.

Regarding **claim 16**, the prior art of record discloses a process of operating a telecommunications network, the process consisting of: in response to instructions from a second party remote from a subscriber terminal, pre-programming the network; communicating to the subscriber terminal a dial tone; initiating a call from the subscriber terminal by dialing; however, the prior art of record failed to disclose or fairly suggest pre-programming the network to respond to one or more short dialing codes from the subscriber terminal, communicating to the subscriber terminal a dial tone, the dial tone offering data identifying the allocation of short dialing codes and initiating a call from the subscriber terminal by dialing one of the short codes.

Regarding **claim 17**, the prior art of record discloses a process of operating a telecommunications network consisting of: means responsive to instructions from a second party remote from a subscriber terminal for pre-programming the network; means for communicating to the subscriber terminal a dial tone; means for initiating a call from the subscriber terminal by dialing; however, the prior art of record failed to disclose or fairly suggest means for pre-programming the network to respond to one or more short dialing codes from the subscriber terminal, means for communicating to the subscriber terminal a dial tone, the dial tone offering data identifying the allocation of short dialing codes and means responsive to a short code subsequently selected by the subscriber for connecting the subscriber to a destination number determined by the allocation of short dialing codes.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jefferey F. Harold whose telephone number is (703) 306-5836. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Forester W. Isen can be reached on (703) 305-4386. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4800.

JFH

JFH
January 22, 2004

[Signature]
FORESTER W. ISEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
YOUNG & RUBICAM CENTER 2600